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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/044,106	01/11/2002	Li Mo	131105.1003	8105
32914 7590 01/11/2007 GARDERE WYNNE SEWELL LLP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SECTION 3000 THANKSGIVING TOWER 1601 ELM ST DALLAS, TX 75201-4761			EXAMINER TSEGAYE, SABA	
			ART UNIT 2616	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		01/11/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/044,106

Applicant(s)

MO ET AL.

Examiner

Saba Tsegaye

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed 10/18/06. Claims 1-17 are pending. Currently no claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rekhter et al. (US 6,526,056 B1).

With respects to claims 1, 6, 12 and 13, Rekhter discloses in Figs. 1 and 7 an import filter receiving a plurality of routers, the plurality of routers having a next hop routing information the import filter accepting a first subset of the routers according to an import target policy (column 6 lines 53-65; column 7, lines 30-38); and a re-export filter receiving the plurality of routes, modifying the next hop information of a second subset of the routes, and distributing the modified routes (column 8, lines 31-48).

Regarding claims 2 and 14, Rekhter discloses the system wherein the re-export filter modifies the next hop information to be the address of a router serving as a firewall of a network (column 32, line 63-column 33, line 6).

Regarding claims 3 and 15, Rekhter discloses the system wherein the re-export filter modifies the next hop information to be the address of a firewall of a virtual private network (column 32, line 63-column 33, line 6).

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Regarding claims 5, 11, and 17, Rekhter discloses the system wherein the plurality of routes each comprises a route distinguisher (T3), a rout target (D1), and the next hop information (T2).

Regarding claim 7, Rekhter discloses the network wherein the re-export filter modifies the next hop information to be the address of the hub node (column 8, lines 31-48).

Regarding claim 8, Rekhter discloses the network wherein the re-export filter modifies the next hop information to be the address of the hub node serving as a firewall for the network (column 32, line 63-column 33, line 6).

Regarding claim 9, Rekhter discloses the network wherein the re-export filter modifies the next hop information to be the address of the hub serving as a firewall of a virtual private network (column 32, line 63-column 33, line 6).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. Claims 4, 10 ad 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rekhter et al. in view of Lin.

With respect to claims 4,10 and 16, Rekhter discloses a system as stated above, but does not disclose a re-export filter comprising of a mask, a value for comparison with the route and an action to take in response to a match between the route and the comparison value.

However, Lin in Patent No. 6,633,563 discloses a content addressable memory having a search field, a mask and an output for each memory location. An input value and mask are

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respectively received on a value bus and mask bus. Each of the input value and mask has a number of bits equal to the search field length. The data stored in the output field is generated as output on an output bus if the input value at bit positions specified by the mask bus match the corresponding bits of the search field. That is, only the bits in bit positions specified by the mask may be compared (column 10 lines 13-22). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to include a mask, a value for comparison with the route, and an action to take in response to a match between the route and the comparison value in Rekhter in order to provide a method to control what is the deciding factor used to determine if a route is blocked or permitted and to provide a comparison method to decide if a route should be blocked or permitted.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 10/18/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Rekhter does not disclose the elements recited in claim 1. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Rekhter clearly discloses that PE2 can tell which D1 addressed system should receive a packet. PE2 contains costumer-network **topological information**. When PE2 receives from CE2 a packet first, it looks up the destination address of that packet in its VPN specific forwarding table. Further, Rekhter discloses that P2 tags the packet with two tags T2 and T3 (claimed a re-export filter that modifying the next hop information) (see also column 27, lines 23-59). It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims as they currently stand read in the Rekhter reference.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saba Tsegaye whose telephone number is (571) 272-3091. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30-5:00), First Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doris To can be reached on (571) 272-7629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ST

January 4, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doris H. To', with a stylized flourish at the end.

DORIS H. TO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600